Hsi was almost inevitably led to concern himself with Tibetan politics. Many of the Mongols had been followers of the Red Sect of Lamaism, and by the time of K'ang Hsi the Yellow Sect was gaining many converts among them. The Eleuths early adhered to the latter and sought to spread it—possibly as a means of extending their own control—while for years *the* Khalkhas remained loyal to the Red cult. Tibet, therefore, became a factor with which K'ang Hsi had to reckon in dealing with the situation on his northwestern frontiers.

In 1684, after many of the Khalkhas had become followers of the Yellow Sect, K'ang Hsi asked and obtained the cooperation of the Dalai Lama in bringing about peace among them. Galdan had been in communication with Lhasa and the ensuing friction with Peking was allayed only by his timely death. Then, too, the chief minister of the Dalai Lama had had some dealings with Wu San-kuei during the latter's sedition and had aroused K'ang Hsi's suspicions. About 1700 K'ang Hsi began strengthening his position in the great plateau. His troops occupied parts of the Tibetan-Szechwan border and he commissioned as regent of Tibet the friendly commander of the Eleuth forces which for a time dominated Lhasa. Before many years a disputed succession to the Dalai Lama-ship led K'ang Hsi to undertake the conquest of the country. One of the claimants was enthusiastically supported by some of the Mongols, Lhasa was taken, and the pro-Ch'ing group was put to the sword. The movement seemed to presage the rise of still another new Mongol Empire. In 1719, therefore, K'ang Hsi came out boldly on the side of one of the contestants, and in 1720 his forces entered Lhasa as victors. K'ang Hsi's protege was

successfully enthroned, Peking appointed two high commissioners to direct him and installed a garrison in the city, and troops were stationed at strategic points on the road to China proper. Tibet was now politically an appendage of China.

K'ang Hsi also dealt firmly with the Europeans who, following the contacts made under the Ming dynasty, continued to come to China. The authority of China over Macao, the one European settlement on the coast, was unequivocably asserted. Under K'ang Hsi's predecessor the Dutch had sent representatives to Peking who allowed themselves to be treated as envoys from a tributary state. They now dispatched ships to help in K'ang Hsi's